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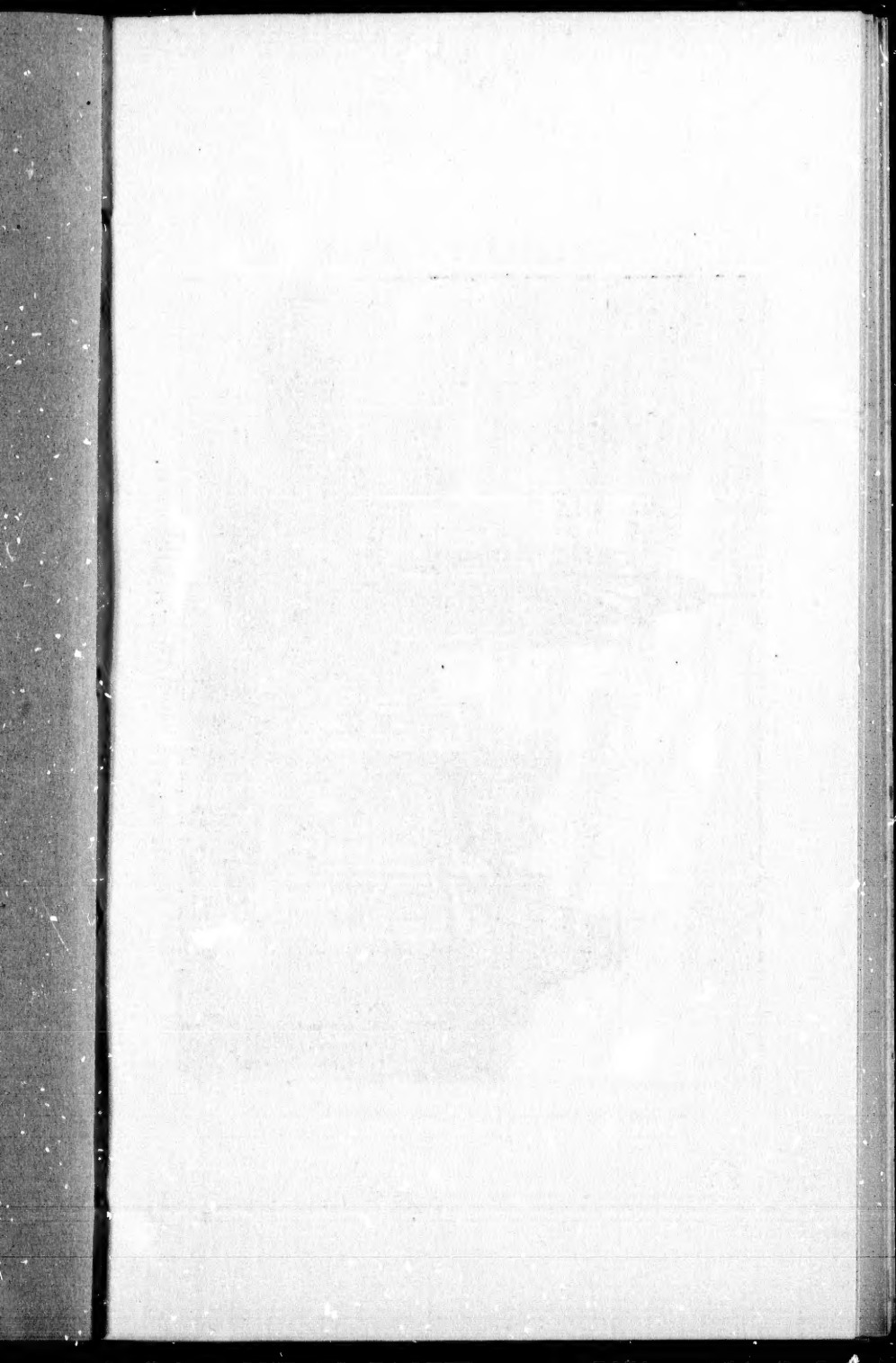
A FEW WORDS
ON
CANADA.

BY A CANADIAN.

Toronto:

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HUNTER, ROSE AND CO.
1877.

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Parliament Buildings, Ottawa.

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A FEW WORDS ON CANADA.

PART I.

TEN years ago Canada consisted of what now constitutes the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec. It now embraces all the British Provinces in North America and Prince Edward Island ; forming an important portion of the continent, and bordering on the northern frontier of the United States for more than 3,000 miles, has its eastern seaports on the Atlantic, and its western on the Pacific Ocean. It is divided internally by the old boundary lines of Provinces for local administration, but cemented together for mutual protection by laws regulating institutions, intercourse, and commerce applicable to all. The climate is suitable in a high degree for the production of all necessities of life ; and possesses those vigour-giving properties which impart health, hardihood, and longevity to the inhabitants. The extent of country is capable of sus-

taining a nation ; and although the expense of its government is provided from its own revenue, the population are only now approaching the subject of a Canadian national sentiment. It is, therefore, desirable to become acquainted with the origin, condition, and circumstances of those whose bone and muscle constitute the physical strength of the Dominion, and whose feelings and attachments to the land influence a people in maintaining those institutions which create a love for country and desire for nationality.

Prior to 1760, the population, principally of French origin, numbered about 80,000. The nature and extent of their explorations, the valour with which they maintained a foot-hold in the land during almost a century and a half, the hardships they encountered, and the energy with which they combated difficulties, excite our wonder to an extent only equalled by those speaking the English language who became residents, and by a generous emulation assisted so materially in developing a country teeming with natural resources. The unceasing work of a hundred years in useful pursuits are apparent in the improved condition of the land, the busy centres for trade, the fleet of ships, the grand canal system, the railways, the educational facilities, the postal and telegraphic systems, the mineral and agricultural resources, the freedom enjoyed by the people, and the rapidity and ease with which communication is effected. This advancement

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has, however, not been attained without trials, which taxed the energies of these early settlers to an extent little understood in the present days of progress in the older settlements. Having an undeveloped country, distant markets, flour-mills far apart, roads mere bridle-paths through the wilderness, their growing family requirements necessitated uninterrupted application to their various pursuits. Game was, however, plentiful, the settlers had rifles, and were practical marksmen. Their generous hospitality was bounded only by the extent of their means. Great religious tolerance was exercised; the loyalty of those who had suffered in the war between Great Britain and the original North American Provinces was undoubted; and they impressed their families with a similar sentiment. Possessing the liberal instincts of the Briton, their laws were made to conform with the requirements of the time, and the progressive development of the country. Thus banded together by social ties and mutual interests and desires, they withstood the shocks of war, and the survivors returned from the several contests feeling conscious that they had fought in a righteous cause, and defended those institutions to which tradition and sacred obligation taught them to cling with unswerving fidelity. We admire the courage, hardihood, and physical endurance displayed by those sterling old pioneers and their sons, who fought the battles of their country in 1812-15;

and who, having transmitted to their descendants the remembrance of that loyalty and devotion to home and country which inspired them, are after a life of usefulness passing rapidly to that bourne from whence no soldier returns. Only a handful, yet they assisted in maintaining the supremacy of the old flag, with a determination and steadiness of purpose worthy of the cause in which they engaged. To them we owe the satisfaction that Canada remains a monument to the stability of a system of government eminently fitted for the necessities of a free and self-reliant people. After those severe contests in 1812-15, it is not wonderful that the population devoted themselves to those occupations which a country new and undeveloped required. With skilful hands and willing hearts, they hewed their way to equal success in those peaceful pursuits which have led on to progress, and made the land, then a primeval forest, to "blossom as the rose."

Increasing numbers and remunerative pursuits have given opportunities for education and cultivation, and lines of demarcation have been drawn between neighbours and communities, which the habits of the early settlers did not permit. The conquest of the forest, and the then necessities of a scattered population, where wealth was only comparative, as the farms were more or less improved, have brought about changes which form epochs in the history of the

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country. Originally all the inhabitants exer-
 cised the same simple habits, and having settled
 in different Provinces, relied upon each other by
 communities and counties for local assistance,
 and upon their united efforts by Provinces for
 protection ; consequently, 800,000 of the present
 population have been accustomed to look with
 commendable pride to their positions as Nova
 Scotians, New Brunswickers, Prince Edward
 Islanders, and British Columbians, while the
 majority of the remainder, having been born
 within what constituted old Canada, have no
 change to make in their designation. Being
 now united under the broader and more ex-
 tended organization, that love of country which
 formerly applied to Provinces, should be so
 modified that the combined interests may create
 that greater pride and patriotic self-devotion,
 that will inspire a sentiment which, as regards
 love of country, and the patronymic "Cana-
 dian" may know no Ontario or Quebec, Nova
 Scotia, or New Brunswick, Prince Edward Is-
 land, or British Columbia, Manitoba or North-
 West Territory, as distinctive localities, but will
 permeate every portion of the Dominion, create
 an emulation for the support of those measures
 necessary to maintain the integrity of that we
 now possess, and afford those facilities which
 should mark the onward progress of an united
 people. As, however, each Province continues
 to exercise the right to make laws relating to

municipal institutions, taxation, public schools, marriages, administration of justice, and all matters of a local or private nature which are at the root of the social structure, that national sentiment will, doubtless, remain dormant in some of the Provinces, until a pressing emergency unites the population. In the meantime, a new generation is arising whose political education is progressing under Dominion auspices, who will, therefore, be more easily welded together whenever a necessity for such is more forcibly made apparent. The statesmanship and patriotism displayed in consolidating without loss of life and treasure, all the complicated interests involved in union, which, although called for by the requirements of the times, could only be found in a country where the instincts and habits of the population were largely utilitarian in character. Confederation secured combined action, celerity of movement, and provision for efficient organization by direction from one common centre instead of by Provinces. Thus the ground-work of a national system was commenced, to be completed as the wisdom, patriotism, and matured desires of its inhabitants might find conducive to the public good. The evidences of progress exhibited at the United States Centennial Exposition last year, indicated the results of recent enterprise, and showed that Canada had not previously received credit for the extent of its resources, or the

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energy, skill, and enlightenment with which its inhabitants had been developing its industrial resources, nor for the advancement made in maintaining technical and other instructional schools. Indeed, when the vast display was viewed by Canadians themselves, they were no less surprised at the variety and extent of the resources Confederation had placed within their grasp, how much was yet to be done in the improvement of what they had heretofore considered excellence, and the additional culture their inventive genius required to enable them to maintain a friendly rivalry with other countries. No better lesson could have been given of the benefits consolidation had conferred, and how much the general good had been conserved by arrangements which secured inter-provincial railways, permitted intercourse, and interchange of commodities. These advantages will, doubtless, become more and more apparent, as each new decade brings its changes and additional responsibilities, and will still further tend to the promotion of that common brotherhood in prosperity and adversity, which will grow and be strengthened in the several Provinces, as the Dominion increases in wealth and importance. The creation of a Canadian sentiment, therefore, carries with it all those considerations necessary to promote the highest aspirations of the people, as well as provision for defence. The amalgamation of the different origins may be slow, but

it will, without doubt, be accomplished in the fulness of time, in the same happy manner as characterized the process of Confederation. Although it must be admitted the elements from which the national system is being constructed do not form a homogeneous mass, class jealousies do not exist to any considerable extent. The minor differences traceable to origin, and the conditions of local circumstances, should, therefore, be more easily overcome, in order that the union through consolidation in all the Provinces may be more enduring, and the working of the machinery of state be made comparatively easy.

From close competition the pursuit of trade has become a science requiring capital and experience. Heretofore less knowledge, and the facilities for engaging in it, has permitted young men from the farming districts, without experience, and with limited capital, to enter the field of competition. Hereafter there will be fewer opportunities for such adventures. On the other hand, as Canada will doubtless remain an agricultural country, a new field for enterprise will be afforded, if schools for education in practical agriculture are established. The class of wealth consumers in non-remunerative pursuits is already inconveniently large, and professional men and idlers are in excess of public requirement. Many are dragging out an existence, who would doubtless be better fitted

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for the more elevated and independent occupation which agriculture affords. By adopting it, they would add to the public wealth in becoming producers instead of consumers, and would be enabled to enjoy happy and contented homes instead of the perpetual excitements and disappointments, non-remunerative pursuits are sure to create. Those who are able-bodied mendicants in cities, in towns, subsisting mainly on charity, and whose children from evil associations are being educated in vice, could also be assisted profitably by the public, and employed in agricultural pursuits, thus adding to the wealth-producing power of the country, and reducing the expenses for the administration of justice. In the older Provinces, capital is required for the purchase of a cleared farm, but in Manitoba and the North-West Territory, prairie land with greater productive properties, and ready for the plough, may be had for a nominal consideration. Even in that distant region the wise provisions of nature indicate the productions best suited to the climate, and to the economical maintenance of the inhabitants, and commercial considerations specify the articles most profitable to export. It is, however, within the range of possibility that the influx of population will be sufficient to consume the productions, until railway facilities can be provided, and thus permit the export of any surplus to a foreign market. While it is a fact that labour creates capital and

capital creates opportunities for improvement and progress, it is not easy to determine the exact period when the respective interests will clash. In the development of a country it is therefore necessary to provide an equilibrium by a law so strong that neither may suffer unnecessarily, and that the general progress may not be impeded by eccentricities which are certain to become apparent at inconvenient times and places.

Prosperous times and a contented population may permit the reduction of an armed force to a *minimum* strength, but when commercial depression and public distrust arises, it has been demonstrated that all the social elements are convulsed, and that the structure must be sustained by patriotism, or, where moral suasion fails to secure obedience, by force. In these days agriculturalists have granges. Railway men and the trades, their societies and strikes. Labour its contests against capital. Men without work demand protection and subsistence ; while religious differences produce discord. During the past twelve months an armed force repressed riots in Cape Breton, in British Columbia, and at Belleville, in Ontario. At Toronto, a procession of Roman Catholics was protected from anticipated attack by Orangemen. At Montreal, a procession of Orangemen was protected from anticipated attack by Roman Catholics, and in other places the civil power required armed as-

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sistance for various reasons and purposes. A class of idle men have established themselves in some of the cities, and are always ready for plunder, who recognise allegiance to no church, who never attend religious worship, who are therefore not amenable to religious discipline, and to whom the prevailing political or religious, or social questions have no significance, but against the exhibitions of whose evil propensities, society must be protected. In every instance where the militia was called on for aid, the duty imposed was unpleasant, but it was performed with alacrity, and with a due appreciation of the responsibility resting upon them. Such a force, at such times, has doubtless prevented loss of life and destruction of property, and has proved a necessary and valuable auxiliary in maintaining the public peace. But in addition to these purely local concerns which are sufficiently puzzling, a new international difficulty has arisen through the invasion of Canada, near Fort Walsh, by an armed force under Sitting Bull. Fleeing northward from the soldiers and star spangled banner of the United States, he occupies camping grounds, takes forcible possession of ammunition from traders in the locality, and seeks rest and food under the protection of the old flag which floats on the Canadian side of the 49th parallel. Without local means to dispute his entry into the country, or his forcible expulsion from it, and no present adequate facilities

for the rapid transport of a militia force to that distant region, if such were necessary, Canadians can realize the possibility of similar invasions from other portions of United States territory, and the responsibilities such will entail. It is a pleasant reflection that the aboriginal tribes with whom treaties have been made by Canada are friendly, and satisfied with the mode adopted for administering their affairs, for it must be apparent that those who subsist mainly by buffalo hunting as the western tribes do, require horses, and arms and ammunition. Their steady nerves and keen perceptions make them marksmen, and having agile frames inured to hardships, they also possess all the instincts necessary for their mode of life. Their passions being uncontrolled by cultivated intellects, therefore, make them formidable in war, either as foot soldiers or on horseback. This knowledge, and considerations of humanity, having prevailed in Canada, the country has been kept free from disasters, and we have had peace. On the other hand, the United States have pursued a policy looking to extermination, and the Indians have retaliated, but it is evident that ere long the troops will end the struggle. Meantime, when sore pressed, the Indians are likely to seek refuge in Canada, and thus, while creating international difficulties, they will also deplete the hunting grounds of Canadian tribes and render their means of subsistence more precarious.

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These growing possibilities create new responsibilities, and a wide field for thoughtfulness and prudent foresight in the civilization and successful government of such a vast territory. It is well that the population is of a stock inured to difficulties, whose enterprises have been so varied, and whose glorious record can be found in every clime. Their patriotism is displayed in the general progress, the persistency with which railways are being constructed towards the north-west, and in the pioneer settlements which are advancing westwards with that disregard for difficulties, and steadiness of purpose which will recognise no defeat. They have established a trade in shipping on a sound basis; caused the expenditures for useful works and improvements to keep pace with the rapidly increasing revenues of the Dominion, and made liberal and substantial provision at the seat of Government for legislation, and for the transaction of all their public affairs. They will not hesitate under discouragements; nothing will apparently deter them from fulfilling the task they have undertaken. Their motto is evidently "Peace on earth, good will unto men," and advancement and progress in Canada. May it not be reasonably hoped that no untoward circumstance will arise to arrest the development of their laudable desires for the present improvement and the future grandeur of their country. Their children will soon constitute the motive power of the

Dominion; they should be brought up in the belief that honest industry is not opposed to social advancement, and that persistent mental and physical employment is necessary to fit them for the high duties they should discharge as Canadian men and women. Wealth may be dissipated, but an education which has inculcated self-reliance will remain a permanent legacy.

Looking to the recent labour strikes in the United States, and to the religious demonstrations in Canada, and remembering the effect of similar occurrences elsewhere, it is a fitting time to recommend moderation in the discussion of public affairs, and to urge upon the representatives of the people to seek beyond the petty annoyances of the hour, for those questions which may be of vital importance to the future prosperity of the Dominion. These subjects do not affect one party more than another, but they will be such, if not properly and soberly handled as will result in the sacrifice of valuable lives, and an expenditure of time and money which will seriously cripple the country in the prosecution of works necessary to develop its industrial resources. There should be no encouragement to those, who, for the temporary advantages of the hour, are bringing in old world feuds, stirring up strifes, and encouraging that spirit of communism which has taken deep root in the United States. Doubtless Canadians of the present day have as many faults and failings, and

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virtues and vices, as other people, but as the good predominates over the evil propensities, there will be less difficulty in convincing them that the working of the institutions to which the traditions of those of each origin have taught them to cling, should be so modified that each may not feel the change oppressive, and that confidence and good fellowship so necessary to success, be not endangered ; in fact, that mutual concessions must be made and forbearance exercised. The people of each origin, having something to learn from those of others, interchanges of thought, social intercourse, and interests in common, will naturally conduce to consolidation and progress. As, however, the sentiments of people change during periods of excitement, or disturbances which affect their finances, too much reliance cannot be placed upon absolute freedom from national responsibility, provision should therefore be maintained for concentrating the strength of the Dominion, so that it may be available to enforce the law, and, if necessary to withstand invasion.

Enjoying equal rights and freedom in the exercise of religious belief, and having a country rich in all the natural resources necessary to sustain a nation, it may be fairly considered whether Canada has not reached that period in its history when all those who claim descent either from Celt or Saxon, Norman or Teuton, or who have heretofore recognised St. George, St. Pa-

trick, St. Andrew or St. Jean Baptiste as patron saints, may not think the prestige attached to the name "Canadian," sufficient to permit the distinctive appellations of English, Irish, Scotch, French or German in Canada, to be merged into the more appropriate and comprehensive name "Canadian," and whether the national banner may not enfold all the inhabitants as an united people without regard to origin, creed, or provincial localization. In order to form a better conclusion let us see from whence Canadians claim origin, and what are their religious tendencies. In 1871 about three-fifteenths of the population claimed descent from England, three and a half-fifteenths from Ireland, two and one-fourth fifteenths from Scotland, five-fifteenths from France, one-fifteenth from Germany, and one-fourth of one-fifteenth from other lands. Of these 83 per cent. were born in this country and 17 per cent. abroad. Canadians, therefore, trace their ancestors to those lands celebrated for valorous achievements and foremost in all that appertains to progress in the arts and sciences, and in the spread of civilization, but as the natural increase of the population will be greater than the augmentation from immigration, the relative proportions of native Canadians will be larger in the future and their responsibilities implied correspondingly. Not that native Canadians have any more right to the title "Canadian" than the Englishmen, Irishmen,

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Scotchmen, Frenchmen or Germans who have settled in Canada, nor any right not equally common to those who may make Canada their homes, but because they have a more intimate knowledge of the conditions of local circumstances and a stronger interest in those institutions with which they have been identified from infancy. In religion six and one-third-fifteenths of the population were Roman Catholics, two and one sixth-fifteenths Church of England, two and one-third-fifteenths Methodists, two and one-third-fifteenths Presbyterians, one-fifteenth Baptists, and five-sixth of one-fifteenth Lutherans and others. Having in these ways a knowledge of the component parts which contribute to the formation of the social structure it is evident that Canada must depend upon the character, the intelligence, the energy, and self-devotion of its inhabitants to sustain it in the hours of national trial. It should, therefore, be the constant aim of every Canadian, whether born in this country or abroad, to cultivate those qualities and to inspire each other with the sentiments from which they spring. There is a magic influence in the field, in the forest, the mighty lakes and rivers, the extent of territory, and the rewards for enterprise that charms young people. Children born here, therefore, become attached to the land, and naturally identify themselves with the industries and institutions of the country. Under these circumstances com-

binations of origins to the detriment of the interests of Canada cannot be successful. Even those claiming the same European origin do not act in concert, for the reason that the majority having been born here, have Canadian instincts which increase in intensity as their possessors are removed by successive generations from immigrant parentage. Let us, therefore, see how many of those who were born in Canada are removed from old world prejudices by the broad Atlantic, across which, comparatively few have ventured. Of those speaking the English language the majority are the second, third, fourth, and fifth generations from the original colonists from Great Britain and Germany, the third and fourth from the United Empire Loyalists, while owing to the inconsiderable immigration from France, the French-speaking inhabitants whose ancestors were planted in this country, when law and order prevailed in France under monarchical institutions, the traditions of the present generation who are almost entirely Canadian born, are naturally of France as a monarchy in contradistinction to France as an empire. At such a distance the remembrance of their European ancestors by those of all these origins is doubtless indistinct, but being British subjects by birth the strong ties represented by mutual interests between Great Britain and Canada remain firmly rooted. The professions and commerce are represented, but the majority are proprietors or cultivators of land and tradespeople

who depend upon their industry, and naturally give their first affections to the land of their birth. There being millions of acres of land which lie untilled for want of willing hands, and in the cultivation of which any man of ordinary capacity can secure subsistence and a competency by honest industry, there should be no idlers amongst Canadians ; and there is room for any number of emigrants from the over-populated countries of Europe ; and ample employment for men of energy, who can conceive useful plans, and have the capital and ability to execute them. But there are at present few places in the North-West where emigrants from Europe without a moderate capital, and without experience of the country, can be planted with a prospect of profit to themselves, or with satisfaction to Canada. As a rule they cannot be educated in that peculiar knowledge necessary for success in less than one or two years ; and as yet Canadian pioneers in that region are too much occupied with their own requirements, to be burdened with those who do not possess the necessary qualifications for success ; which include outfit and means to procure subsistence during the period of their apprenticeship. Having no law of primogeniture, none of the old estates common to England, indeed, few of any kind are tied down by entailment ; and although there is no privileged class except that which personal merit secures to indivi-

viduals through the popular voice, Canadians have been firm in the exhibition of loyalty to their Queen, and faith in the wisdom generally displayed in the management of the affairs of the Empire.

Possessing to a large extent the characteristics and determinations of their Canadian ancestors, tempered by the light of modern times, those born in the country can unite on equal terms with those who come from the same original stock, and have made Canada their home; claiming no advantage by reason of birth, but trusting to their intellects for inventive genius, looking at home and abroad for means of improvement, selecting the good and rejecting what may be bad; being diligent and self-reliant in the prosecution of their pursuits, amenable to discipline and to law, holding fast to their country, and making its honour and its concerns second in importance only to their homes and their Creator, they will renew that right to be called "Canadians" to which by common consent they are entitled, by either birth or residence. Having a constitutional form of Government, unequalled in liberality, a country so fruitful in resources, agriculture, manufacturing, mining, and maritime, as to insure development of muscle and strength and progress. It must be apparent that the Provinces which now constitute Canada, have emerged, in fact as in name, from their former weak and struggling positions, and having

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a healthy, vigorous population, educated to the requirements of the country, who possess the ability to legislate for its advancement, and to defend it in case of need, have entered upon a new state of existence. The progress in development is so rapid and the necessity for prompt action so urgent that rule from Downing Street, on the old basis, would be impracticable. Being free from European complications, and having no voice in the legislation of the Empire, the attention of Canadian statesmen must naturally be directed to measures which the necessities of Canada require, and which they are in reality carrying out with that forethought, wisdom and technical knowledge, resulting from a clear perception of the idiosyncracies of the population. In this way, by making the Government of Canada successful they add to the prestige of the Empire, and in return receive that protection as British subjects which could not be easily secured to Canada, on her own merits, as a separate and distinct nationality. Having progenitors and institutions such as these, it is not wonderful that a race of hardy, intelligent, persevering men is growing up here equal to any in America. The martial spirit they inherited has lost nothing in transmission. Their desire for military exercises is evinced in the persistence with which they maintain an organized force under considerable discouragements, and in the surprising alacrity they exercised whenever the Fenians threatened

them, or their services have been required in aid of the civil power. The facilities for self-government also create ambitions not likely to arise in an old and thickly populated country ; even the backwoodsman, whose opportunities for education have been limited, is naturally sharp in all that appertains to self, while the County Councils and Local Legislatures afford opportunities for those more advanced, to consider questions relating to education, taxation, finance, the necessity for economy, the development of the national resources, and the industries of the Dominion. In these ways a constant national and self-reliant education is progressing, but which, owing to the excellent judicial system, and the law-abiding dispositions of the mass of the inhabitants is apt to lead to a partial disregard for any other organization than that for which the civil administration so ably provides. If the law-abiding were the only ones to be controlled, no further provisions would be necessary, unfortunately there are troublesome spirits here as in other countries, who, through comparatively weak in themselves, are capable of giving annoyance. It must therefore be apparent that while the various interests involved in union will afford occupation for distinguished statesmanship in the years to come, and form the ground-work for a national sentiment of which Canadians may be justly proud, they will also entail a necessity for the maintenance of a military organization on a

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substantial basis, which will be governed by those wise regulations which secure obedience and discipline, and insure the execution of all laws made for the Peace, Order and Good Government of Canada as a portion of the Empire.

Without making a military organization a source of pecuniary embarrassment, it is evident that a vigorous one is required in this vast Dominion, one in which patriotism may be represented, where military instruction may go hand in hand with the education of the young, and in which those engaged in the professions, in agriculture, commerce, and manufacture, can obtain temporary relaxation from their ordinary pursuits, and at the same time perfect themselves in a knowledge of drill, and in habits of discipline and obedience. The nature of the organization, whether a force in permanent pay, stationed in different parts of the country, which would become a model and supply instructors to the ordinary militia, and around which the manhood of the localities could rally in cases of need, or a militia force having suitable schools for the instruction of officers and non-commissioned officers, as well as the bounds within which the expenditure should be kept in time of peace, will be in good hands if left to the patriotism and wisdom of Parliament. Although it may be hoped the country will never be involved in war, the exhibition of prudence and foresight in the mainten-

ance of a disciplined armed force will add to the public confidence, and permit assistance to the civil power, whenever necessary. Such a provision does not imply anticipated difficulties, but as a prudent man insures his property against losses from fire, so the public by retaining an organized force will diminish the probabilities of mob rule, or combinations inimical to the general interests.

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PART II.

It is evident Canada must have time to grow, to develop its resources, and to perfect means for interprovincial communication before perfect unity and a homogeneous Canadian sentiment can be secured throughout the Dominion. The magnitude of the country and interests involved are not at present within our conception as an united people. We have been accustomed to run in a groove in the management of our affairs by Provinces, and as yet have no apparent desire to change old sentiments for new, even although the adoption of the new will not separate us from pleasant intercourse and communion with the old. Faith in the protection the old flag affords remains unshaken, we cling to it, and wrap ourselves within its ample folds. The national societies of Great Britain, and other kindred associations, will, therefore, doubtless continue to form bonds of union amongst those who are Canadians by adoption, and under whose influences affection for the old and patriotism for the new land will commingle and find suitable expression. In these views a purely Canadian society, to bring about a Cana-

dian sentiment, seems out of place in a population where eighty-three per cent. are to the manner born. Constitutional government, municipal institutions, the development of mineral, agricultural, commercial and maritime resources, homes, school-houses and churches, beautified by cheerful surroundings, and a community of interests, will create a sentiment both creditable and lasting. It will come soon enough, but not until the population is welded into shape. Canadians can then look upon their country with pride. Their homes will remain as a green spot around which the memory of youthful pleasures can linger when the cares of manhood rest upon them, and these combined will represent that future grandeur which it should be their fondest aspirations to see realized, and which will enable them to form one vast community for mutual advancement as Canadians.

In the primitive condition of the country, the interests of the settlers were generally similar; all worked for the common good, social considerations prevailed to restrain those who, under other circumstances, might have been troublesome. Although true to the same King, they did not serve God after the same fashion. They were, however, free to worship in their own way and to teach their own beliefs. As the population and production multiplied, the trades and professions found employment. Railways, canals, ships and telegraphs were required for

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transport and economical and speedy communication. All the wheels of the complicated machinery necessary for improvement and material development were set in motion, and thence the progress was onward in an increased ratio, as the inventive genius of the population found occupation. Ten years ago the boundaries of Canada were widened. New interests added. The populations were not entirely homogeneous, and lines existed separating origins and creeds. It is, therefore, the duty of Canadians to do what they can towards softening and harmonizing those interests which appear diverse, so that all may work for the common good. The country has surmounted more serious obstacles to progress, and its people are now in possession of a constitution which, for liberality, has no equal. No question should arise as to national societies or religious denominations if all perform their duty as good citizens. They should keep in mind that the experience of Great Britain in the government of Colonies has brought about changes in system which have created a new era in the history of the world's progress. Instead of discord at home and difficulties abroad, caused by unwise regulations, as in the olden time, the population of the Provinces embraced within the Dominion enjoy unity of government, which constitutes them one people for mutual advancement and for mutual protection under the old flag. They

should, therefore, form an aggregation of human progress and industry, which should reflect credit upon the liberality of the Constitution under which their united government is secured, and the wisdom with which their affairs are managed.

In Europe every nation finds it necessary not only to have a considerable standing army, but to be prepared to mobilize their populations on short notice. Happily on this continent the interests of the populations are generally similar. The United States will have ample occupation in harmonizing jealousies, and softening and welding into shape the divers local interests of the vast population created within the last century. These occupations will require time and patience, and give ample scope for statesmanship and philanthropy ; and this will permit Canada to increase in strength and in the development of its resources. The States appear to be under heavy bonds to their own people, to maintain peaceful relations with Canada. Aggression in a northward direction merely for the sake of conquest, would, if successful, only add another discordant element, more difficult to ingraft into their system than the Southern States have proved. There is, therefore, less necessity to arm against each other ; but experience proves that the domestic concerns of each country have not always been peaceful ; and each has been compelled to defend itself from attacks from the

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neighbouring country. Each consequently continues to maintain such an organization as its circumstances and necessities require. It is, therefore, proper to consider the subject of a military organization, not officiously or in a partizan spirit, but with frankness and truthfulness, pointing out defects, and applauding what may appear suitable for Canada. There is no occasion for alarm in considering the question. The ordinary avocations should in no way be disturbed by it ; the country must be defended, and law and order maintained. The best means to secure those ends should, therefore, be considered with as much intelligence and freedom from doubt as can be applied to any other occupation. The pursuit of knowledge requisite for ordinary development, and that relating to defence should go hand in hand, that each may be equally available in maintaining that progress it is the duty, as well as it should be the pride, of the population to minister to.

Under the provisions of the Militia Law the number of men to be drilled annually was fixed at 40,000, to be raised in the several divisions in proportion to the strength of the enrolled militia constituting the reserve in each. The period of service in time of peace is three years. In case of war every man is liable to serve, or furnish an approved substitute. The law applies to the whole country, and consequently the militia is under Federal instead of the Provincial control

which prevailed prior to Confederation. The Federal arrangement being homogamous, prevents differences in modes of formation, equipment, rank, pay, discipline, and generally in all that relates to military service, and it permits the whole strength of the Dominion being put forward in defence without those irritations which would naturally result from different systems being suddenly brought into accord.

The present active force consists of cavalry, artillery, and infantry, representing a nominal strength of 43,790 officers and men. Of these, owing to diminished appropriations of money, only 29,000 were trained in 1875, and but 23,000 in 1876. The circumstances under which the force of Ontario and Quebec was suddenly increased in 1862-3 and 1866, were exceptional. Stimulated by the proximity of the war in the United States, its termination, and the unsettled character of a Fenian element then existing. The population was excited and prepared to defend their homes with vigour. The zeal they displayed in the service of their country, proved their love for it. The results of those excitements are now matters of historical record. The country has reverted to its normal condition, rendering corresponding changes in the mode of organization, and recruitment necessary. The estimates have been reduced, without sanction for curtailment in strength, or for reorganization. The country is

extensive. The population widely scattered. Having more important interests to protect in proportion to that population, than the United States have in proportion to their population, these interests should, therefore, be carefully guarded and protected by law at all times; and by the whole strength of its inhabitants when necessary. The existing system, while theoretically providing machinery for the mobilization of the whole able-bodied population in case of a *levée en masse*, distributes the quota for drill each year amongst the districts according to population, thus interfering as little as possible with industriul pursuits, and keeping a constant flow of men going in and out of the force at all times. It is true, they are only partially drilled, but they become possessed of immensely useful and available knowledge, inculcating, at the same time, the idea that it is a part of every man's duty to be prepared to assist when necessary, in the defence of the country. Although there are no perceptible exciting causes to stimulate increased exertion, the population is not stationary. There is, therefore, necessity for an unwearied course of instruction, to keep pace with ordinary development. Each year a new set of militiamen, who, perhaps, have never seen a regular soldier, attain the age which fits them to serve. Without models, which an instructed body of men would furnish, and without a suitable number of capable instructors, it will be

difficult to make the present force a thoroughly serviceable organization.

In the organization and maintenance of a militia force, the obstacles which seemed unsurmountable at first sight, have gradually disappeared, until now, as the structure is gradually assuming a form of solidity, all doubt as to the ability of the country to secure efficiency, if proper means be adopted, must disappear. To meet those requirements, the ground-work of a suitable system of organization should provide an active force to form a nucleus in time of peace, around which the whole population in each district can rally in case of need, the formation of central depots for stores, equipments, and supplies, and perfect arrangements for a commissariat, and for transport, and the use of that system for supplies during the ordinary trainings in camps of exercise. Provision is also needed for the education of officers and non-commissioned officers. Men for these purposes cannot be found ready for duty, when emergencies arise, unless ample provision has been made beforehand. Great emergencies do not make cultivated and capable officers. These emergencies are the necessities for which cultivated and capable officers are the supplies. Such officers, when employed, should, doubtless, become the exponents of principles and knowledge accumulated during years of fagging, and are often the unconscious instruments which add to the pres-

tige of a country in times of its greatest need. There cannot be a greater mistake then to suppose there is nothing in military pursuits for which a technical education is required. In these latter days there is no such thing as justifiable retrogression, and in no other subject are there greater opportunities for advancement, and mental cultivation, than in those pursuits. There has, doubtless, been much progress made, but there still remains very much more to do. The question therefore arises, how can means for the instruction of officers and non-commissioned officers be provided? and what are the qualifications which will in return make them competent to instruct and command other men? The root must grow before the branches and the foliage. It is, therefore, evident there must be seats of learning, having capable teachers, where a practical as well as theoretical education can be attained. So long as Imperial Regiments were stationed in this country, they formed the basis, and models, and provided the means for instruction. The subject is now so divided that it would create too wide a range of thought for any one to master all. Schools should, therefore, be provided so as to permit instruction, in special branches only, for those whose attainments need not necessarily extend beyond such provision. A military college which provides for a high class education in all military subjects; and two schools of gunnery are now in operation, which

supply instruction to officers, non-commissioned officers, gunners, and drivers of artillery. Similar provision for the infantry would supply the present need for that arm. No one can properly deny the benefit such a system of schools would confer, or the advantages which would accrue from the preparation, and education, of such an element as the military college will create for future usefulness. The proposed additional technical schools would afford an elevated standard of true primary military instruction for the infantry. A practical education, so far as it goes, would be imparted, and would be lasting, inasmuch as in whatever position its possessor might thereafter be, he could by a short course of instruction become an expert in the performance of regimental duties at any time. The military college should, doubtless, become the foundation of a military educational system, leaving the technical schools to supply needful instruction in special branches for those, who, from age, and other causes, cannot avail themselves of the advantages of the college. An essential part of the instruction would be in the actual practice such schools would afford, in fitting officers and non-commissioned officers for the duties of organization and command. The examinations would be both oral and written, as well as special and technical. The certificates of qualification issued, would give assurance of ability, and knowledge, which would also secure additional social status to

those possessing them. Under the existing system, for various reasons, different results have been obtained in different localities. The conditions of regularity, precision, similarity and order, should be equally apparent everywhere. Let those schools be inaugurated and carried out in a patriotic spirit, and their practical advantages will be more and more appreciated as each decade rolls round. They will give strength and solidity to the active force, and add to the manly independence of the male population. They will also secure confidence in the stability of the institutions of the country, and provide a guarantee that law and order will prevail everywhere.

The college provides for the military education of young Canadians, without reference to class or origin. The ages for admission are between 16 and 20. The vacancies are allotted to districts, and the admissions based on competitive examinations. The course of instruction assimilates as nearly as possible to the English system. In everything the cadet is placed upon his honour, and is in all matters taught habits of precision, exactitude and self-control. The length of the college course is four years. The cadets will, after the expiration of each period of four years, leave the college in the order admitted, and their places will be supplied each year by the admission of others to the extent of two from each military district. By

this method the college will always have a number of older cadets to maintain an *esprit de corps*. The subsistence, lodging, and instruction, is supplied by Government, free of expense, the cadets being required to pay for their uniform, clothing, books, necessities, &c., the expenditure for which, after the first year, will be so small as to be within easy reach of the most moderate income. Their education will naturally make the cadets capable of duties which require scientific attainments, both in military and in general subjects, of a higher degree than those ordinarily acquired. All who complete the course will carry away with them those habits of discipline, and that high sense of personal honour, which will make them desirable and useful members of society, in whatever position they may be placed. The cadets who go from different districts will return educated, and having a knowledge of the theory of organization, will inspire confidence, and enable the Dominion to carry out a system which will accord with the spirit of its institutions, and the social condition of its inhabitants. They will also be qualified to supply military maps of the frontier, which constant changes in the features of the country, caused by clearing the land, draining swamps and improving roads, render necessary. It must, therefore, be apparent that the Military College will supply an educated class beyond the limit of the requirements of the present

active force of the country. The strength of the two Gunnery School is ten officers, and three hundred non-commissioned officers, gunners and drivers, and provision is made to attach ten officers and ten non-commissioned officers to each school for short courses of instruction of three months each.

So far the active force has been maintained by voluntary enrolment. Both officers and men are engaged in the various industrial pursuits. They cannot spare the time, nor the means, to embrace the military profession under the conditions of remuneration now granted by Parliament; but they have expended time and money in making themselves, and their corps, as proficient as circumstances permitted. Experience has proved an armed force necessary. Its usefulness should, therefore, be efficiently maintained. This can only be secured properly by supplying the means for an authorized course of primary instruction and in the qualification of officers and instructors. Time, therefore, enters as a factor into the result. It is not possible for those possessing a knowledge of the English language only to learn to speak the French or German languages merely by the use of books. So it is equally impossible to secure educated instructors in infantry tactics and drill by the use of books only. The Major-General commanding has pointed out the means by which three suitable schools could be provided at an

expense of about \$112,500 per annum, and by which the force comprising the strength of those schools would also be available for duty as regular soldiers—thus reducing the cost of instruction to a minimum. The requisites should, therefore, be provided for the advancement of the interests of the force in this direction, in order that it may keep pace with the times and be equal to any future requirement.

The qualifications an officer should possess must be of a personal, practical and technical nature, as well as intellectual and theoretical; but it is quite possible, under existing circumstances in Canada, to secure great natural talent and suitability for regimental work, without its possessor having at the same time high educational attainments. He should, however, possess a thorough practical knowledge of the militia law, and all rules and military regulations, and of the interior economy of a regiment. He should be prepared to obey orders with precision, promptness, and appreciation of responsibility; exact obedience to regulations from those under him, and enforce by command, and encourage by example, the energetic discharge of duty at all times. The success of an officer depends less on the general superiority of intellectual powers than on his ability to command wisely, and his peculiar adaptation for the work he is required to perform. "He who can best work with the tools which come most readily to his hand must

be the right man, in the right place. He will be judged of by results, rather than methods, or his implements." The officers of the active militia have civil occupations, and are appointed from the different social ranks. They perform military duty only for a few days each year, and, therefore, cannot, under the present condition of service, become exclusively military in their tastes and aspirations. Even if infantry schools be established, their occupations would not permit lengthened absence from their homes, at any one period, for instructional purposes. They can, therefore, only obtain a sufficient knowledge of military duties to fit them for regimental work. Their civil occupations would not, however, as a rule, be materially interfered with by courses of instruction lasting three months. The instruction imparted would, nevertheless, result in great advantage to the country.

The qualifications an instructor should possess are an education obtained in a regular regiment, or a model military school ; that he be soldierly in dress, deportment, and instincts, possessing a thorough knowledge of the militia law and regulations for drill and discipline, a natural aptitude for command and conveying instruction, and above all, to be able to command himself ; he should be heartily interested in his work, and look upon his duties as the highest aim to be attained for the time being. Such men are not

now plentiful, and as the conditions of the country and its active force are constantly changing, provision for an adequate supply is of such importance, if the estimates cannot properly be increased, as would render the diminution of the present strength desirable, in order that the necessary schools may be established. Indeed if suitable provision cannot be made for officers and instructors, much of the money voted by Parliament for drill and training will be unnecessarily wasted. When riots or disturbances arise in any part of the Dominion, and military aid is required, the country expects the local corps to turn out in winter or summer, night or day on an hour's notice, completely armed and equipped for service and under competent commanders. If their duty is discharged in an efficient, soldierly manner, they are considered amply compensated if paid as ordinary labourers. On the other hand if from any cause the corps fails in its duty, the reputation of the whole force suffers. Under the prevailing policy which only permits a part of the force to be imperfectly drilled for a few days each alternate year, efficiency should not be expected anywhere. Notwithstanding this regulation, the great bulk of the force is a credit to the country, recompense, thanks, or discouragements appear of minor importance. They enrol their men, drill recruits, account for arms and accoutrements, maintain rifle associations, singing rooms, and bands, supplement the clothing

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and provide drill 'instruction, and care of arms on very meagre allowances. And the nature of the service is such, that they rejoice with each other in prosperity, sympathize in sorrows, cheer the living, and with military honours bury their dead. Indeed there is practically no reasonable limit to the sacrifices in time and money both officers and men are prepared to make. Their patriotism should therefore be directed toward securing uniformity in system, and better provision for rifle practice. Breech-loading rifles require to be handled with skill, and each man should fire his allowance of ball ammunition under suitable instruction. Although it may be hoped the skill these men ought to acquire as soldiers will not be opposed to the highest aspirations for industrial progress, or used in shedding human blood, it must be confessed that moral suasion only will not likely be sufficient to prevent local disturbances, nor can serious international disagreements be always settled by ordinary arbitration. They can therefore be depended on as citizens to assist in all the local industries, and as soldiers to protect life and property wherever our flag floats.

If political considerations could be extinguished, the strength reduced, the pay and number of days' drill increased, and schools be provided for the instruction of officers and non-commissioned officers, the active force could be made exceedingly effective. Even corps in the remote

and thinly-populated districts would form no exception to the rule, and would be as available for duty as the city and town corps, whose conditions and circumstances are more favourable. If aid should be required in the future in maintaining peace in cities and towns, it would add vastly to the efficiency of that aid, if one or more regular regiments be raised and stationed in different localities. These could be maintained at a cost of about \$365 per officer, and man, per annum ; they would supply the staff and models for infantry schools, and the militia, and also form rallying points in their respective localities. In either case, those at each station could be merged into the local regiments of militia for service at any time. The ability of such a combination to strike hard, and quickly on sudden emergency would be undoubted.

To see how the force can be strengthened and improved is not sufficient. The ability to do it implies that the needful skill for the purpose is possessed by enough officers and non-commissioned officers to permit the instruction and command of any number of men the circumstances of the country may require. Their education is not the growth of a day or year. To have the requisite number, an unfailing supply must be provided for, and this demands an expenditure of time, patience, perseverance, labour, of such a kind, that cramming cannot be profitably resorted to at any

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stage. In these days of progress, the officers and non-commissioned officers, whose education may have been complete at any one period will not long remain proficient unless they have practice and keep up their studious habits. It requires incessant study and practice to keep qualified. Attachment to their military duties makes them skilful and intelligent ; when technical services are required, if properly qualified, they respond to the call to duty with alacrity and determination ; they have by practice become endowed with vast intellectual and military talent, as compared with those not similarly qualified, and having the power of working, and eagerness for that work, are practical living necessities.

Let us trace the various stages through which the existing organization has passed to its present condition, and it will be found to be secured to the country by anchors that cannot easily be removed. The cable may be slipped, and the ship of state give it the cold shoulder for a time, but its importance will, nevertheless, be made apparent on every fitting opportunity, and it will be found that this result has been attained by unceasing labour, devoted to the perfection of its minutest details, and to that unceasing labour the country is indebted for a system which has proved ample to meet all current emergencies, and which, under proper encouragement, will be sufficient for the time to

come. Many officers who have heretofore spent time and money in qualifying themselves, are in advance of public opinion, and are, in consequence, despondent under what they consider want of appreciation of services, and restriction in the regulations for drill and training, but who are in many instances, wanting in that prudence which should teach them rather to yield to the necessities of the time, than, by unwisely maintaining their views to risk a deprivation of many advantages possessed, whereas by patience and a firm reliance in that patriotism, apparent in the management of the affairs of state, and on the strength of their own position for a change in sentiment, after the second sober thought of the country is proclaimed. There can be no reasonable doubt that a strong organization is required. Considerations of economy, and a want of belief in the possibility of danger, oftentimes sway a people in diverging from that line of conduct which subsequent reflection and experience will convince them is most conducive to the public good. The existing law gives ample power for the strongest possible organization, if supported by regulations based on Orders in Council, and the necessary amount of money be granted to carry those orders into effect.

There are many ways of having a force numerically strong on a very moderate expenditure, but only one mode whereby it can be made effective. The only serviceable desirable quality

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is efficiency, which can only be secured by an expenditure of time and money, adequate to the production of that quality: Drill, practice, and training will so fit a force for service, that when motive power is required, it will work with the regularity of a machine. Facility of this kind becomes mechanical after persevering, patient labour and instruction, but not otherwise. Let us therefore see what is required to improve the present force and the regulations. The first consideration should be to maintain the organization under a head who has experience, and a love for the service and the disposition, power, and will, to secure efficiency; and secondly, to keep the force at such a strength as the money voted annually will maintain in an efficient serviceable condition, and in keeping the machinery for rapid expansion in working order, so that the department and the country may not be thrown into unnecessary confusion, when such expansion becomes urgent. If our military progress is to keep pace with the industrial development, which it should do; it should be managed as well. It should know no political party, but be regulated for the common good of the whole people. The result of such management would be extraordinary. It would have vitality "like a strong man after sleep." It should also be considered that a wise provision to meet danger, frequently prevents much greater provision to repel it. Information should be accumulated

relating to the resources of every portion of the country where military operations might occur in case of war, or other disturbances, its power of sustaining a military force, its population, its roads and means of transport, its physical features, its trade, and all other necessary information. The great power of an armed force consists in an aggregation of minute particulars, many of which seem of little importance to the unprofessional observer, but which when combined are necessary to secure unity, harmony and effectiveness. The primary consideration is to fix upon that system of organization which secures all the elements of strength and effectiveness on the least expenditure of time and money. How these conditions can be best attained, is of equal importance. The system suitable for one country is not adapted for another ; the climate, resources of all kinds, populations, institutions, social conditions, have their influence. Every country must therefore agree upon that one best suited to its condition and requirements, and having so decided, to set to work vigorously to improve it until its organization has been brought to the highest possible state of efficiency. The first necessity of a soldier is food, and appliances for preparing it, then arms, ammunition, accoutrements, clothing, instruction, transport, shelter, medical and hospital supplies, equipment, &c. The nature of the organization is of first importance, then the discipline of its corps, and their

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cohesive properties form an element of strength, and ease of mobilization and provision for new levies from the reserve, will add vastly to that element of strength. It will not be sufficient to expect that numbers sufficient for ordinary requirements will suffice in times of peril. During those times nothing is sure to happen except the unforeseen. Modern armies are therefore not now small portions of the population from whence they are drawn, they represent, and are, in fact, whole nations in arms, divided into a regular army, a militia or first and second reserves, as supports. War is also shortened by the great armies and appliances, hence the great strength of a nation is brought to bear at the outset, in order that the struggle may be earlier terminated. Railways afford facilities for rapid transport of men, munition, and stores; the telegraph permits rapid transmission of intelligence, and the modern infantry weapons which give rapidity of fire and precision, has created improved modes of formation and attack; battles must now be fought by armies at greater distances than formerly, and upon improved principles. The comparative loss of life should, therefore, be less than during the days of the old Brown-Bess, which, having a shorter range, necessitated contending armies to fight almost hand to hand, the bayonet then destroyed more lives than bullets. Uneducated or partially drilled men, even when armed with long range rifles, are of small

account when opposed to the skill and enlightened forethought of those specially trained and educated. As the backwoodsman knows each description of wood by its grain, so should officers and men be proficient in a knowledge of the weapons with which they are armed. In these days, everything is done to preserve the life, mitigate the sufferings, and supply the wants of the soldier ; therefore, in providing for the wants of an armed force, nothing must be left to chance ; every contingency must be anticipated and arranged for.

In the recent wars in Europe, contending nations have been compelled to strain every nerve, employ every resource, and utilize every advantage. The supply of subsistence has proved a difficult one. Even in Canada, articles needed for the subsistence of an army would in some portions of the country require to be drawn from distant places. Money could not procure enough supplies, the production of the locality, at any price, for the reason that these portions of the country are dependent on distant markets at all times. Under such circumstances, food would really prove the first necessity for a soldier ; without it he loses heart, and loss of discipline would soon ensue. In the Dominion in 1876, the deficiency in the production of wheat, corn, flour and meal, was equal to 1,496,000 bushels. Ontario and Quebec shewing a surplus of exports to foreign countries equal to 680,000 bush-

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els, in addition to sales to other provinces not reported. The other five provinces, viz : Nova Scotia was deficient equal to 1,166,000 ; New Brunswick, 481,000 ; British Columbia, 155,000; Manitoba, 287,000, and Prince Edward Island, 56,000 bushels, almost entirely purchased in the United States, and in excess of importations into each province from the other provinces. In the event of war with the United States, the country would, under the conditions of such a deficiency, require either to consume other articles or draw necessary supplies from Europe. It may, however, be hoped, that the fertile lands of Manitoba and the North West Territory, now being brought into cultivation, will very soon produce ample supplies to permit the Dominion being called self-sustaining in these staple articles of food. Although there was a deficiency in these staples in 1876 it does not appear that all the corn imported was consumed for food ; some of it was doubtless used in the manufacture of spirits and for feeding stock. In any event it was purchased, and only about 166,000 bushels were used in the five provinces where deficiencies existed. The Dominion, however, produced in excess of its wants and exported in 1876, 2,400,000 bushels of peas, 10,168,000 bushels of barley, 2,644,000 bushels of oats, and quantities of meats, cheese, butter and eggs. Of these grains Ontario supplied 1,300,000 bushels of peas, 9,920,000 bushels of barley,

and the bulk of the other articles, but was deficient in oats to the extent of 350,000 bushels. On a consideration of the circumstances of each locality, it appears fortunate that the wise provisions of nature indicate the productions best suited to the climate and to the economical maintenance of the inhabitants. In the heart of the North West Territory now awaiting settlement, iron ore and coal in profusion lie in close proximity to each other, thus placing the means within reach for a railway to transport the productions of its arable lands to the Atlantic or Pacific seaboards as occasion may require.

Although the Maritime Provinces are deficient in producing bread-stuffs, they add to the grandeur of the country by their seaports, their ships, their deposits of coal and precious metals, and by their forests of timber, and when the time shall come for the establishment of naval schools, they will furnish a class of cadets unequalled for intelligence and adaptability for cultivated navigators and seamen. Their place in the Confederation is an important one, and although their interests are not precisely similar to those of the interior provinces, they have equal advantages in the great good resulting from combined action and successful government. Properly stimulated and encouraged, the provinces best suited for agriculture, will produce necessary articles for subsistence and export, and the provinces on the seaboard will

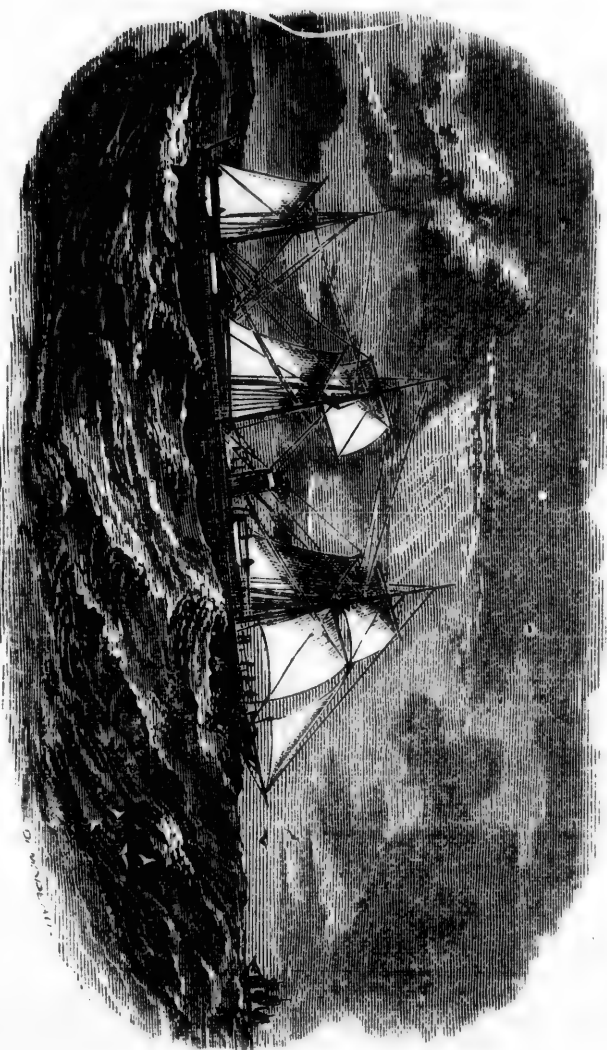
perform the ocean transport service. In matters of defence the interior provinces must prove of vast advantage to those by the sea. All are therefore equally interested in developing a substantial and expansive policy for the administration of the military affairs of the Dominion.

PART III.

THE several Provinces are now working together in harmony. There is no existing national or provincial discontent. On the contrary, there is a strong and ever-prevailing feeling of loyalty and attachment to Queen and country. Peace, plenty, and perfect reliance in the stability of the existing form of government, are apparent everywhere. There is, therefore, no reason why the policy of the country should not be vigorous and healthy. Nothing weak or vacillating should be allowed to sway its Government from the path of manifest duty. The signs of peaceful civilization in the far North-west are assuring, and will doubtless remain lasting if the local population can be made confident that the salutary order heretofore maintained in the older Provinces will prevail there. The aboriginal tribes of that vast region are bound to the country by ties of respect and self-interest. They will likely remain faithful unless incited to an opposite course by the tribes in adjoining territory, and in this way become the unconscious instruments in making Canada a base for border warfare against the United States, or of desolat-

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ing raids into that country. The older Provinces are now beyond the limits of childhood; and require sureties exceeding what sufficed during years of infancy and growing prosperity. There are many elements dangerous to the peace and well-being of the community. They must be considered in any estimate as to the nature and extent of arrangements which will suffice to insure the continued enjoyment of civil and religious liberty, order, and respect for law and good government. Existing problems must teach the country that a regard for its best interests, should make ample preparation for the prompt enforcement of law and the maintenance of order, an imperative necessity. Our lot is cast on this land for a purpose. It should therefore be a duty to model and shape, and foster and encourage its institutions. Peace and security for life and property are valuable. The simple lessons afforded by modern events should therefore not be without their significance; and if the population is wise, it will profit by them in strengthening its armed force, in order to anticipate and make ample preparation for any emergencies which may arise in the future. The progress in every part of the country bears testimony to vigorous administration, and to the belief of its inhabitants in the future greatness of the Dominion. There is a just reason for pride in the patriotic effort which has culminated in the establishment of a military college. The effort

exhibits energy and sound common sense, and deserves exceptional success. If its promoters had done nothing else, they would deserve, and will doubtless receive, the gratitude of their country. If their hopes are fulfilled, the results will justify the wisdom and forethought expended upon its plan of organization. It will bear fruit as bread cast upon the waters, which will prove ample compensation for any necessary outlay expended in maintaining it.

An organization which would be free from the weakening influences of politics, having its head and staff intelligent and in earnest, united in a common cause, could effect a marvellous and beneficial change in the military affairs of the country, without greatly increasing the current rate of expenditures. An organization having in all its details military discipline, and military efficiency would result. Preparation for it should be made on the basis of any industrial work, and every outlying corps be made to feel that there was vitality in the administration. The character of the force would however, require to be raised by reductions in strength and the interests of the remainder administered with promptness and energetic action. In this way we could see local battalions raised under an equitable, elastic, and economical system, carrying out the same training in each district, which would permit their being speedily grouped into brigades, divisions, and army corps, for

service under educated officers. It would also require constant study and exertion by the local staff officers. They would have undoubted military employment, be prevented from blue-moulding, by intercourse with the corps, and by an active participation in the difficulties and successes incident to a force recruited from all classes in the community. Political tergiversation ramifies everywhere, and without resulting in benefit to party is an impediment to efficiency. If heed be given to the lessons of the times, derived from personal and other experiences, and those lessons be honestly applied, it cannot fail to result in building up the structure upon a firm and substantial basis. It is easy to see that as a whole the force and the regulations for its government can be so reorganized as to greatly increase their efficiency, even on the present reduced appropriation, but it is evident that the amount now voted will not be sufficient to secure such an organization as the great skeleton this country is, will require. There is no policy so suicidal as starving. Having purchased experience we should profit by it. There should be more stability and less indecision. The reorganization should therefore be accomplished without wavering, without precipitation, without delay. No false economy should blind us. But to make that system thoroughly efficient and lasting the population must first be convinced of the necessity for adopting it. Progress can-

not result from following a system found defective. Canada ought to have an organized militia and a military educational system which would in these respects place it in the front rank of colonies, of which it now stands pre-eminent in substantial progress, and in the enlightened and far-seeing policy embraced in Confederation. Its people have undertaken the settlement and development of half a continent, and having put their hands to the plough, should not look back on the past except to profit by the useful lessons experience has taught, but with foundations laid broad and deep, to look forward into the distant future with that faith which has heretofore proved a beacon star in the onward march of civilization, in the wilderness and on the plains. Its people are capable and worthy of culture, they should therefore remain true to their instincts and traditions, and make their spirit vital everywhere. The spirit of the times should be thoroughly understood, but the question is simplified by the intelligence with which we can now approach the study of it.

The industries of the United States have not yet recovered from the prostration consequent upon recent contraction, but their manufactories produce many useful articles in excess of the home demand. These conditions will naturally cause them to seek foreign markets. The policy which protected and encouraged industries during infancy will, doubtless, be abandoned, or

modified, as each one becomes firmly established and able to defy competition ; they will, therefore, soon be eager for a new treaty with Canada, in order to secure its markets, and a resumption of intercourse formerly enjoyed, but against which they have created unnecessary and inconvenient barriers since the Reciprocity Treaty, which then existed, was abrogated. When those anticipated approaches are made, Canada should be ready to treat for new terms on such a basis, as the altered condition of the affairs of the Dominion may render conducive to the public good, and reciprocal as between Canadians and their neighbours.

The commerce of the Dominion is fast assuming proportions of magnitude ; its banking capital is ample for trade purposes ; its manufactories are prosperous to the extent of the demand for productions ; its agriculture is increasing in importance under scientific cultivation, and is capable of unlimited expansion ; its fisheries are prolific ; its forests of timber valuable and extensive ; and its deposits of coal, iron, the precious metals, petroleum and salt, are practically inexhaustible. Every Canadian should, therefore, be impressed with a conviction that he has a mission to fulfil ; he should be strong in mind and will, and make the most of the powers and talents he has received in trust for the advancement of his country ; let him decide upon some useful pursuit and concentrate his energies upon

it ; his mission should be to build up and protect its industries. He must feel that the struggles waged in developing resources are of greater importance to Canada than heroism displayed on the field of battle ; anticipations of future prosperity will sweeten any self-imposed privations, and industry and perseverance will accomplish wonders. Those who are in earnest, prudent and systematic, and conscious of strength and ability for work, will have their reward. They are not the soldiers of a forlorn hope, but have the means within their grasp to secure victory in peaceful pursuits, and in advancing the cause of humanity. They can turn the tide of invasion toward the North-West, and as the mighty cataract at Niagara pours its waters oceanward, so will they be strengthened from the reserves of their countrymen, in making successful war upon the land, and upon its hidden treasures. The country they will have conquered, their homes, and lands, and flocks, and herds, will be their reward, and their children's inheritance. The territory in the North-West, which was almost inaccessible before Confederation, is now partially surveyed, and facilities for interior transport multiplying. Manitoba has attracted an immigration of hardy pioneers from the older Provinces, and from that centre immigration is extending into the half-explored spots in the Saskatchewan and Peace River districts, to form what will in a brief period comprise

centres of large and thriving communities, and, finally, Provinces which will add vastly to the importance, exporting power, and physical strength of the Dominion. The facilities for communication by roads, railways, and water, and by post and telegrams, keep pace with the growing requirement, and will aid them. Their horses and vehicles are suitable and plentiful, and materials for road-making are abundant everywhere. Canadian tools, implements, and machinery are well suited to economize labour. School-houses and churches are co-existent with settlement, and co-extend as by magic with the growth of the population. The minds of many Canadians are being enlarged and cultivated by travel and intercourse with other people; art is beginning to receive encouragement; embellishments similar to those which adorn other lands are being copied, or others created for future development, as wealth accumulates. The grand canals are being enlarged and deepened. The tonnage of the Dominion gives it fourth rank with countries celebrated for shipping, and the five hundred lights and alarm whistles now existing, permit navigation along its rivers, lakes and coasts at all times. These facilities and advantages, with the development of which they are capable by a practically educated people, and the three Atlantic Provinces grouped into one, if such be possible, for representation in parliament, and for united thought and action

by 800,000 people in the management of their municipal affairs, must form a basis for strength, stability, and commercial wealth and progress, unsurpassed by any other country.

August, 1877.

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